

U.S. Application No.: NEW  
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Attorney Docket: 3926.171

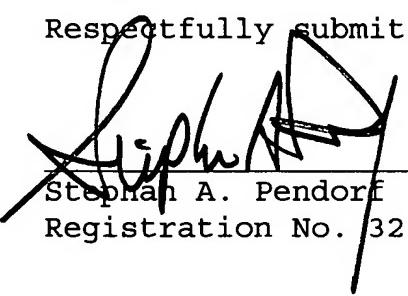
REMARKS

The claims have been amended in order to eliminate multiple dependent claims and claims improperly depending from multiple dependent claims, and to otherwise conform the claims to U.S. practice. Care has been taken to ensure that no new matter is added to the text.

Paragraphs [0002] and [0006] have been amended, respectively, to remove reference to Claim 1 in the specification. Care has been taken to ensure that no new matter has been added.

Entry and favorable consideration prior to consideration are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Date: May 9, 2005

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10/534241  
JC17 Rec'd PCT/PTO 09 MAY 2001  
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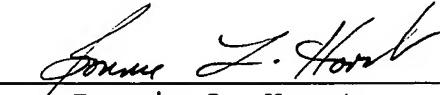
**EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE**

"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL NUMBER: EV550580244US

DATE OF DEPOSIT: May 9, 2005

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Preliminary Amendment and a stamped receipt post card are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated with sufficient postage and is addressed: ATTN: Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 16-0877.

  
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Bonnie L. Horst